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REMARKS

In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration of the present patent application is respectfully requested.

Fig. 7 has been amended pursuant to the Examiner's request to designate same by the legend noting such figure is "Prior Art". In addition, the specification has been amended on page 12 to correct the reference numeral 200 of the slider arm to correctly recite that the slider arm is reference numeral 120. In addition, other minor corrections have been made to various pages of the specification to conform same to proper idiomatic English, etc.

In addition, the title has been amended to be more descriptive pursuant to the Examiner's request.

In view of the cancellation of the three original claims, new claims 4-7 are believed to more particularly define the invention and overcome the Examiner's rejection of the original claims under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner's rejection of the original claims under 35 USC 102(a) as anticipated by Japanese publication 303963, published May 5, 1997, is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. Applicants respectfully bring to the Examiner's attention the Japanese priority application No. 9-00136, filed January 17, 1997, which antedates the publication on May 5, 1997 of

Japanese publication number 3039631. It should be recognized by the Examiner that the original (basic) application of the present case was registered and published as noted and cited by the examination (publication No. 3039631, published May 5, 1997) however, the priority date of the present application clearly antedates this publication as the priority date of January 17, 1997 is earlier in time, and thus it would appear that the Examiner's rejection is improper and should be withdrawn. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration in this regard by the Examiner is respectfully requested.

The Examiner's rejection of the original claims as anticipated under 35 USC 102 (b) based upon the patents to Matsui (JP 6-243561) or Chung, et al (U.S. 4,795,109) is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. The cited references each disclose mechanisms in which a door is synchronously operated, that is, opened/closed, by making use of a cassette holder's transfer from a play position to an initial position. Thus, these cited references are the same as the art regarded as Prior Art in the present application and thus add nothing to the anticipation of the present invention as neither reference discloses or suggests in any manner whatsoever the present invention as now defined and claimed herein.

In contrast to the Prior Art references cited by the Examiner, i.e., Matsui or Chung, et al, the present invention is more particularly characterized by the movement of the door at the time of ejection of the cassette placed in the play

position and the timing of starting to transfer it in response to the movement of the door. In accordance ^{WITH} such features of the invention, the downsizing for the video deck's body depth dimension can be achieved. Thus, applicants maintain that all of the cited references clearly do not teach or suggest the operational timing of the respective members or elements of the present loading mechanism for loading a video cassette which realizes such novel features of the instant invention.

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With this in mind, new claims 4-7 more particularly define the invention and distinguish same from the prior art and the cited references, and are thus believed to be patentable distinguishable therefrom.

Accordingly, applicants maintain that the new claims recite elements which interact in a way which is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious from either of the three references applied against the original claims, whether taken alone or together or under 35 USC 102 and/or 103 even though such obviousness statute was not applied by the Examiner.

Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of new claims 4-7 is earnestly solicited at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

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